

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-19 are pending. Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new Claims 16-19 are added by the present amendment. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment, as support for the amendments may be found at least at page 81, line 25 to page 82, line 4 and Figures 31-34.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1 was provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 1 of co-pending Application Nos. 10/800,757, 10/800,766, 10/800,764, 10/800,683, and 10/800,681. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Nishida et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,384,674, hereinafter “Nishida”). Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Parulski (U.S. Pat. No. 5,555,098). Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Moon et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,493, hereinafter “Moon”).

With regard to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §101, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendment makes this rejection moot.

With regard to the rejections of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §§102(b) and 102(e) as anticipated by Nishida, Parulski, and Moon, Claim 1 is canceled, making these rejections moot. In as much as the rejection may be applied to new Claims 16-19, the following remarks are respectfully submitted for the Examiner’s consideration.

New Claim 16 recites an information medium comprising:

- a control information area for storing,
 - a still picture audio/video file information table including still picture audio/video file information for managing the still picture video object,
 - original program chain information with which a whole of the still picture video object can be referred to by specifying first and last object numbers of the still picture video object, and

a user defined program chain information table including user defined program chain information with which a part of the still picture video object can be referred to by specifying one or more object numbers of the still picture video object, wherein said still picture audio/video file information includes group information of the still picture video object, said group information includes entry information of the still picture video object; and a data area for recording the audio/video data is configured to include a sub-picture stream, wherein said entry information includes entry type information containing number information indicating whether the sub-picture stream is included.

Nishida relates to an image recording/reproducing apparatus. Nishida describes that data may be stored on a Digital Audio Taperecorder (DAT) tape in a data structure shown in Figure 2 of Nishida.¹ The data structure includes still picture/audio composite data following a table of contents region including reduced still picture data.² It is respectfully submitted that Nishida does not teach or suggest “number information” as recited in Claim 16. Therefore, as Nishida fails to disclose or suggest all the features of Claim 16, it is respectfully submitted that new Claim 16 (and new Claim 19 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Nishida. As new Claims 17 and 18 recite similar features to Claim 16, it is further respectfully submitted that Claims 17 and 18 also patentably define over Nishida.

Parulski discloses an apparatus for providing multiple programmed audio/still image presentations from a digital disc image player. Parulski describes that data may be stored in data structures as shown in Figures 3-5 of Parulski. The data structures include a pointer table (110) and sequences (120) and (140).³ The sequences may include still image files (200) and audio files (300), or pointers to the locations of still image files and audio files.⁴ The still image files include header (242) and image (244) data.⁵ However, it is respectfully

¹See Nishida, column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 26.

²See Nishida, column 4, lines 6-26.

³See Parulski, column 7, lines 13-59 and Figure 3.

⁴See Parulski, column 8, lines 5-22 and Figure 4.

⁵See Parulski, column 7, line 60 to column 8, line 4 and Figure 4.

submitted that Parulski does not teach or suggest “number information,” as recited in Claim 16. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 16-19 patentably define over Parulski.

Moon relates to a computer readable storage medium for storing information for still pictures. Moon describes that the medium may include still picture group information, as shown in Figure 7 of Moon. The still picture group information may include a still picture map table, also shown in Figure 7 of Moon. The still picture map table contains a video map for each still picture without audio, and a video map and an audio map for each still picture with audio.⁶ A video map is shown in Figure 10 of Moon and an audio map is shown in Figure 11 of Moon. It is respectfully submitted that neither the video map nor the audio map described in Moon includes number information indicating whether a sub-picture stream is included.⁷ Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Moon does not teach or suggest “number information,” as recited in Claim 16. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 16-19 also patentably define over Moon.

⁶See Moon, column 7, lines 16-26.

⁷See Moon, column 7, lines 27-45 and Figures 10 and 11.

As none of Nishida, Parulski, and/or Moon, either alone or in any combination, disclose or suggest the features recited in Claims 16-19, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 16-19 patentably distinguish over the cited references. Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion and present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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